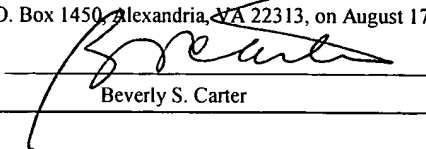


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL"

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Beverly S. Carter

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Application Serial No.: 10/606,135

Filing Date: June 25, 2003

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD
AND APPARATUS

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit: 1746

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(e)

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Dear Sir:

This petition is in response to a Notice of Omitted Item(s) in a Nonprovisional Application that was mailed on August 2, 2004, stating that the above-referenced application was deposited without pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification (a copy of the Notice is attached hereto). Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(e) to accord a filing date of June 25, 2003 for the above-referenced continuation application, and to accept the pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** that were originally submitted with the above-referenced application (copies of which are enclosed for your ready reference).

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Applicants respectfully submit that pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification were originally submitted with the above-referenced continuation application that was filed on June 25, 2003, claiming priority to parent application Serial No. 09/628,235 (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,613,692). As noted on the enclosed copy of the return postcard stamped by the Patent Office on June 25, 2003, pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification were included as part of the 72 page specification noted on the return postcard. Since the Patent Office did not indicate that any documents listed on said return postcard were missing, it is concluded that pages 41, 47, 51 and 68 was among the documents submitted at the time of filing this continuing application. Applicant notes that pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification submitted with this continuing application corresponds exactly with pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the parent application, which was in the Patent Office at the time of filing this continuing application.

Regardless of whether pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification were physically deposited with the present application, because Applicants incorporated by reference the parent application (Serial No. 09/628,235) in the transmittal filed on June 25, 2003 in the manner prescribed by M.P.E.P. § 201.06(c), pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification are deemed to have been filed with the application. The Applicants are, therefore, entitled to the date of filing (i.e., June 25, 2003). Moreover, the Applicants are permitted to amend the application by adding any subject matter contained in such parent application, including physical copies of the specification from the parent application, without the need to file a petition and without needing to submit an additional oath or declaration (See M.P.E.P. § 201.06(c), "INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE," first paragraph). Accordingly, under M.P.E.P. § 201.06(c), Applicants respectfully request that pages **41, 47, 51 and 68** of the specification be added to the file, the

petition fee be waived, and that the Commissioner accord a date of filing for the above-reference continuing application of June 25, 2003.

The Deputy is hereby authorized to charge any fees that may be required by this petition, or to credit any overpayment to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 199372002501. Fee Transmittal form (PTO/SB/17) is attached to this submission in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 17, 2004

By:



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